

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

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14

ACTION FDRE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PASS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IGA-02 PC-05 SS-15

NSC-05 SCSE-00 /038 W

----- 095192

P 062100Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9962

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 0827

DEPT PASS MANAGUA SAN JOSE SAN SALVADOR TEGUCIGALPA MEXICO

USUN USMISSION GENEVA AND SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE

JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE USCINCSO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AID/AIDAC/PHA/FDRC

1. GUATEMALAN EMPLOYEE OF EMBASSY REACHED TOWN OF  
TECPAN (ESTIMATED PRE-EARTHQUAKE POP OF 23,979) FEBRUARY 4  
AT ABOUT 1100 AM AND STAYED THERE UNTIL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

2. TOWN IS COMPLETELY DESTROYED. HALF OF THE CHURCH IS  
DOWN. THE MUNICIPALITY BUILDING TOTALLY DESTROYED.  
UESTO DE SALUD DESTROYED. POLICE STATION DESTROYED. JAIL  
DESTROYED, AND SOME PRISONERS KILLED WHEN WALLS COLLAPSED.  
SCHOOL WALLS STILL STANDING, BUT BUILDING NOT USABLE.

3. NO WATER OR LIGHT. RESCUE UNITS BEGAN TO ARRIVE  
THURSDAY. THERE WERE 40 OR 50 SMALL LANDSLIDES ON THE  
ROAD, BUT ROAD PASSABLE BETWEEN GUATEMALA AND TECPAN.  
KM 80 IS COMPLETELY IMPASSABLE. FROM TECPAN TO  
QUEZALTENANGO CARS ARE MANAGING TO GET THROUGH.

4. HE ESTIMATES 400 TO 500 KILLED. SOME 400 OR MORE  
INJURED. HIS FAMILY'S HOUSE COMPLETELY DESTROYED.  
AT THE CEMETERY, WHERE THERE ARE ABOVE-GROUND MAUSOLEUMS,  
CASKETS AND BODIES CAME OUT. THOSE CORPSES WERE BEING  
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BURNED. OTHERS BEING BURIED IN PITS. TRACTOR DUG  
A PIT AND THE REST OF THE DEAD WERE BEING THROWN IN

THERE. SHOCKS STILL BEING FELT EVERY FEW MINUTES, AND  
THEY ARE STRONG ONES.

5. IMMUNIZATION TEAM VISITED TOWN THURSDAY. SITUATION  
STILL CHAOTIC. RUMOR HAS IT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL  
ORDER THE TOWN EVACUATED.

MELOY

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER REPORTS, EARTHQUAKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976GUATEM00827  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760046-0789  
**From:** GUATEMALA  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION FDRE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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